

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the objection and rejection are requested.

Claim 3 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. The Applicants' would like to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

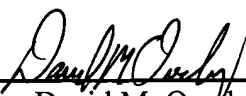
Claim 7 has been objected to as containing an informality. Also, claims 1, 2 and 4-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Edahiro et al. (US 5,253,239).

In order to expedite prosecution of the present application, claim 1 has been amended so as to include the limitations of claims 2 and allowable claim 3. Further, claims 2-7 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. As a result, only allowable claim 1 remains pending in the application.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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